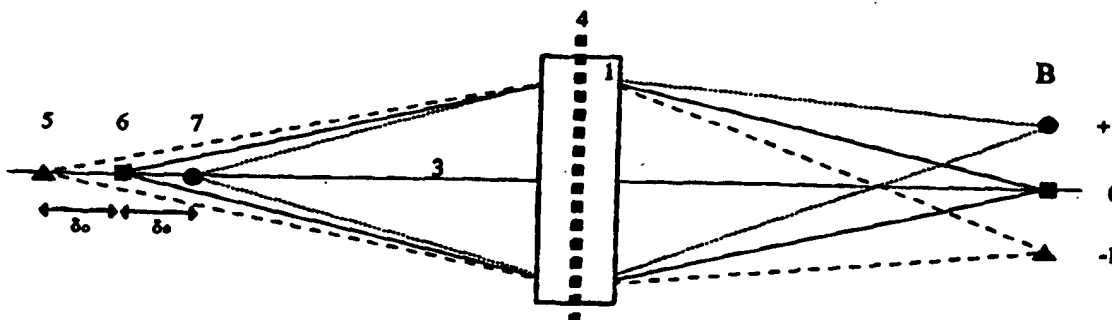




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(54) Title: THREE-DIMENSIONAL IMAGING SYSTEM



(57) Abstract

A three-dimensional imaging system is described which exploits the defocusing of non-zero diffraction order images caused by the quadratic distortion of a diffraction grating (4). An optical system (1) is used such that objects (5, 6 and 7), located at different distances from grating (4), are imaged simultaneously and spatially separated on a single plane B.